

WORK OF THE ARBITRATORS.

PLANS OF PROCEDURE OF THE BRITISH-AMERICAN COMMISSION—NO GENERAL HEARINGS.

Quebec, Aug. 24.—No meeting of the joint arbitration commissions was held to-day. Both the American and Canadian Commissioners are at work on plans for procedure, and will compare notes and decide upon a plan at the joint meeting to-morrow. One point, however, has been determined. Nothing in detail of the Commission's work will be given to the press until after both sides. The reason for this is to prevent as far as possible the demands for hearings before the Commission.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Senator Fairbanks have both stated that it would be impossible for the Commission to grant general hearings. They say the work of the Commission would never be finished if this were done. Both the American and Canadian have a great amount of data, and official information upon all questions to be considered, and whatever additional information is desired will be obtained from available sources. For these reasons it is thought that a general discussion of the work in the press would tend to bring to Quebec daily delegations of persons anxious to be heard. This would result in great annoyance and delay. On the most important questions expert testimony will be heard, and where local interests are to be seriously affected a single representative of the interests may be heard. Beyond this the Commissioners say they will be unable to grant any requests for hearings. Briefs and documents on all questions will be received and given attention.

To-night Sir Wilfrid Laurier gave a dinner to the Commissioners at the Garrison Club, and in all the speeches was expressed the sentiment that the work of the Commission would be carried out in a most amicable way, and that the results would be of lasting benefit to the two great nations.

Yesterday a rumor was in circulation here that the conference would at the joint meeting to-morrow adjourn for an indefinite period to meet at Washington. There appears to be no good foundation for the rumor. It is possible that the Commission may take a recess after two or three weeks, but the Commissioners on both sides stated to-night that no adjournment would be taken until after the work had been carefully looked over and both sides had become satisfied as to what could be accomplished in the way of a general adjustment of all questions to be decided.

The State election in Maine, in which Congressman Dingley is interested, will take place about September 15, but Mr. Dingley says that he will be able to attend to all his duties in connection with the Commission. Senator Fairbanks and Senator Gray are also interested in the elections in their respective States, but do not intimate that it will become necessary for them to postpone the work of the Commission because of the elections. If an adjournment be taken early in September, it will be with the mutual consent of the Commissioners on both sides.

Don M. Dickinson, who has been before the American Commissioners in the interests of the Michigan lumbermen, left to-day for Omaha. Before leaving Mr. Dickinson brought to the attention of the American Commissioners the advisability of changing the old treaty of 1817, under which neither Canada nor the United States is permitted to "build and maintain" war vessels on the Great Lakes. In behalf of the shipbuilders in Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit, and other lake cities, he asked that the word "build" be stricken out of the old treaty, and that the shipbuilders be permitted to compete with other parts of the country. He did not ask that the provision prohibiting the maintenance of more than one cruiser by either Government upon the lakes be changed.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN INTERESTS.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 24.—The Provisional Government has decided not to send any representative to Quebec to watch British Columbian interests at the international conference.

The Government, however, will prepare a memorandum for submission to the British members of the conference, setting forth the views of the Government on all questions and all points on which it asks for action for the preservation of provincial interests.

REPORT OF A FIGHT IN CUBA.

London, Aug. 24.—According to a dispatch from Madrid to a local news agency there has been serious fighting between the Spaniards and the insurgents in Cuba, in which the insurgents lost five hundred killed and wounded. The report cannot be confirmed from other sources.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS AT SANTIAGO.

Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 23 (delayed in transmission).—The San Juan arrived to-day from Guantanamo Bay, bringing two companies of Hood's regiment and 107 bags of mail, delivered there by the Fern from Key West. It was the first mail matter received for ten days. When the 5th Regular Infantry arrives for garrison duty in the city, taking the place of Hood's regiment, which will be transferred to San Juan de Porto Rico, Crane's immunes will be assigned to guard the Spanish prisoners of war.

The embarkation of the latter continues. To-day twelve hundred sailed on the transport Montevideo, and one thousand by the transport Pedro de Sotomayor. Thirteen hundred will leave by the transport Leon to-morrow.

General Linare, whom General Toral succeeded in command at Santiago prior to the evacuation, left by the Pedro de Sotomayor. There was a great demonstration by the Spanish soldiery on his departure.

CONDUCT OF THE INSURGENTS.

London, Aug. 25.—"The Times" this morning says editorially: "If half the Cuban stories are true, it is no wonder that the Americans are disgusted with the insurgents' conduct. The insurgent leaders make a grave mistake if they imagine their conduct will go unpunished. It may be a trouble some business, but America, having put her hands to the plough, will not turn back."

AMERICAN SCHOOLS FOR SANTIAGO.

Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 23 (delayed in transmission).—The conferences between General Wood, Military Governor of Santiago, and the local authorities with reference to opening the public schools have resulted satisfactorily, and places will be ready for four thousand children on September 15.

The salaries of the School Commissioners have been fixed at somewhat reduced figures; the element of sectarianism has been eliminated from the management and American bases of education have been proposed.

BIG FIRE IN THIRD-AVE.

LOSS LIKELY TO BE \$200,000—MANY THIRTEEN RESCUED OF TENANTS DAZED BY AMMONIA FUMES.

The explosion of a large ammonia tank used in the making of artificial ice set fire at an early hour this morning to Jacob Hoffman's Crescent Brewery, a five-story brick structure, at Nos. 206 and 208 East Fifty-fifth-st. The flames spread with marvellous rapidity, and the Central Bottling Company's plant, of which A. Wolf is the proprietor, at No. 202 East Fifty-fifth-st., caught fire. In a short time the entire block surrounded by Third-ave., Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth sts. seemed to be doomed. The surrounding tenement-houses, all filled with sleeping people, next became ignited, and the bewildered tenants began to pour out into the streets by the hundred.

The fire spread to the stables of the John Kress Brewing Company, immediately in the rear, and the two hundred or more horses were thrown into a panic. Volunteers rushed in and got all of the animals out. It was necessary to cover their heads with bags to get them out of the building.

John D. Flynn, a newsboy, made an effort to rescue somebody in the tenement-house at No. 197 Third-ave., and his hands were so badly cut by falling glass that it was found necessary to send him in an ambulance to Bellevue.

The fumes of the ammonia from the great tanks made the work of firemen and police extremely hazardous. Policemen McCauley and Sheehan were temporarily overcome by the gases and had to be assisted to a nearby saloon. The ammonia also permeated the row of tenement-houses in Third-ave. just around the corner from Fifty-fifth-st., and the effect on the half-dazed tenants was much like illuminating gas, causing partial asphyxiation. Several of these were almost unconscious when taken out by the firemen, but were quickly restored to the open air.

The fire was under control at 2:30 a. m. The loss at that hour was roughly estimated at \$200,000. While there was no knowledge of the loss of any lives, it is not impossible that there were some fatalities. The night watchman could not be found at a late hour, and it was thought possible that he was killed by the explosion.

DR SCHWENINGER ON BISMARCK.

PHYSICIAN TELLS OF CHANCELLOR'S LAST HOURS AND OF HIS PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH HIM.

Berlin, Aug. 24.—Through the medium of his friend, Count von Hoesch, Editor of the "Tagliche Rundschau," Dr. Schwenger gives a history of his personal relations with Prince Bismarck and his illness. He says:

"My whole thought was centered upon the Prince. One day my life seems aimless. My telegram of July 27 was in no sense a lie. It was directed against the sensational newspaper announcement that the Prince was afflicted with poisoning of the blood. When I telegraphed you the Prince was particularly well. After a long series of sleepless nights he had slept seven hours, and he felt fresh and invigorated. He smoked five pipes, one after the other. I felt no uneasiness in leaving him. He was, indeed, so well that I invited him to take champagne, after having forbidden him to take any alcoholic drink since March.

"What, my dear Schwenger, may I really drink some beer again?" cried the Prince incredulously.

"We drank a bottle and a half. He was once again the Bismarck of old. His pain had left him."

Dr. Schwenger described his return to the dying Chancellor. He says:

"Death was due to want of air in the lungs. He imagined that death would result from sudden paralysis of the brain or heart. There had always been trouble in the leg since the St. Petersburg incident, but this was by no means so bad at the time of his death as at many times previously. The rapid closing of the coffin was dictated by no desire to prevent anybody from seeing the body."

Passing from his professional to his private relations with Prince Bismarck, Dr. Schwenger relates that Bismarck had repeated to him again and again that his dismissal was his death sentence. The hermit of Friedrichsruh had no field in which to exercise his superabundant energy.

"His agony of soul," said Dr. Schwenger, "was intense. One day he said to me, 'The old Roman voluntarily took leave of life when they were forced to quit the scene of their public activity, but this fate is not for me.'"

Eulogizing Prince Bismarck's conversational powers, Dr. Schwenger says:

"I remember not long ago listening to him discuss a particular subject which had here before been left untouched. In his passion he suddenly clasped his head with both hands and stormed; I could not interfere in this disgusting business and tell them what result it will have; but, as you know, Schwenger, my trumpet will sound no longer. It no longer holds wind."

"Mournfully the Iron Chancellor looked into the political future. 'We are advancing toward difficult and dangerous times,' he would say. 'Despite his momentary Bismarck's pulse was as strong as the minute. His lungs were magnificent. One breath a minute would have sufficed him if necessary."

"This character," the doctor concludes, "which I got to know as no one else, was simplicity itself. The phrase 'No one is great in the eyes of his valet' did not apply to Bismarck."

MR. CURZON'S SUCCESSOR ELECTED.

SIR HERBERT NAYLOR-LEYLAND, LIBERAL CANDIDATE, DEFEATS LORD SKELMERDALE.

London, Aug. 24.—The election for the seat in the House of Commons for the Southport Division of Lancashire, S. W., made vacant by the acceptance of George N. Curzon of the Viceroyalty of India, was held to-day, and resulted in the return of Sir Herbert Naylor-Leyland, Liberal, by a majority of 272 votes over his Conservative opponent, Lord Skelmerdale 129.

At the last election for the seat Mr. Curzon, in the Conservative interest, was returned by a majority of 74.

The result of the election is a bad defeat for the Government, Mr. Curzon having held the seat since 1886. Peculiar circumstances affected the contest. A section of Liberal Unionists, headed by the chairman of the local Unionist Association, declined to support Lord Skelmerdale, on the ground that there is no longer any need for Liberals to vote for Conservatives. Thereupon Mr. Chamberlain, in the fray with a letter urging the Unionists to vote for Lord Skelmerdale because home rule was not dead, but only sleeping.

The Unionist leaders professed to feel contempt for this "little Unionist revolt." The success of which is likely to have important results as regards the relations of the parties in the future.

TO INCREASE ESQUIMAULT PORTS.

BRITISH NAVAL STATION ON PACIFIC TO BE IMPROVED—ENGLAND TO SEIZE AN ISLAND.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 24.—Considerable excitement has been created here by the publication of the fact that Captain Patrick Collier, Inspector of British naval stations in the Pacific, paid a hurried visit yesterday to Esquimault dockyards. He refused to be interviewed, and stayed but a couple of hours, but it has become known that his visit was in regard to a projected increase of the fortification at Esquimault which will more than double the present capacity.

Collier has also said that an island in the Pacific near Honolulu is to be seized by Great Britain for a coaling station.

POLAND! POLAND! POLAND! Pure, sparkling, delicious, medicinally unsurpassed. Advt.

HOT CAMPAIGN IN SIGHT.

REPUBLICANS MUST FIGHT FOR THE NEXT HOUSE.

MEETING OF THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON—FRANK TALK ON THE OUTLOOK.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Aug. 24.—All the officers of the Republican Congressional Committee are now in Washington, and have been in conference this afternoon in regard to the plan of campaign in various parts of the country. Chairman Babcock, who arrived this morning, will probably remain until November, as will Governor Hull of Iowa, chairman of the Executive Committee, and Secretary Overstreet, of Indiana. Vice-Chairman Sherman, of New-York, who came in to-day, rosy and good-natured and vigorous as ever, said that he would probably spend considerable of his time in outside party work, and Mr. McCleary, of Minnesota, the member of the committee who supervises the preparation of campaign literature, will probably do the same.

After a comparison of notes and a general survey of the field to-day the officers of the committee expressed a reasonable degree of confidence in Republican success, but they all concede that the contests in a number of the Congress districts would be hot and close, and that the Republican majority in the next House of Representatives would probably not be as large as in the present one, where it is fifty-one. All the indications point to substantial gains, with slight losses, if any, in the West, but the opinion is expressed that, owing to various causes, the Republicans will lose several districts they now hold in the Eastern and Middle States, and that the gains will probably be more than offset by the losses. Everybody at the committee headquarters also realizes that the Republicans must spare no effort if they would win, and that hard work must be done in every district that is in the least uncertain.

LOSSES AS WELL AS GAINS IN VIEW.

Chairman Babcock, in conversation with members of the committee and others to-day, dwelt with strong emphasis on this fact. Among other things he said:

"I have found a wonderful amount of confidence among Republicans everywhere I have been, and this is based upon the success of the Republican Administration. To so great an extent is this feeling prevalent that Republicans say we will win with hands down. To my mind, that feeling shows a great mistake. We will have a good working majority of sound money Republicans in the next Senate. This majority will be from six to nine. But there is no use disguising the fact that the election of a majority in the House will be a very close and difficult matter, and our Republican friends should understand this. The reasons for our losses in the House will come from dissatisfaction over the disposition of patronage and from local complications in the various States."

"While we shall have votes to carry the next House, we cannot expect to have as large a majority there as we have now. We now have fifty-one majority, so that we can sustain some losses and still have a good working majority. The situation is such that it behooves every Republican to be on the alert, especially in close districts, because we will need every one of them."

Respecting probable gains and losses Chairman Babcock said: "So far as National matters and the support of the President are concerned, the Republican party throughout the West is a unit. I have yet to hear the first criticism of Mr. McKinley or his Administration from a Western man."

"The difficulties we will meet apply to both the West and the East, and they refer to differences arising from contests in State matters. In the States of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin we cannot expect to make gains, for the reason that those States are solidly Republican now. In Northern Illinois the condition is the same, and there is no chance there for gains to offset losses that may be met in the East. We must face the fact that we will lose a number of districts in New-York, Pennsylvania and other Middle-Eastern States. Tammany is in control in New-York City, which was not the case in 1894 and 1896, when we carried the city."

"In the extreme West the free silver sentiment has died out to a wonderful degree, to a much greater extent than any one who has not been in the West lately would be inclined to believe. There is no chance there for recruits on that issue."

"We will make gains in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, California and possibly Washington. Still, I do not think our gains in the West will offset our losses in the East, but I feel satisfied that we will make enough gains to allow us to organize the next House."

CONFIDENT ABOUT THE SENATE.

Mr. Babcock is confident that the Republicans will control the Senate by a fair working majority, from the beginning of the LVIII Congress. On this point he said:

"At present we have thirty-six sound money Republican Senators who hold over. There are nine States in which elections take place, and in which it is absolutely certain that Republican Senators will be elected. This will give us forty-five, or one-half of the Senate. In addition to the above, elections for Senators take place in Nebraska, Wyoming, West Virginia, Delaware, New-York, New-Jersey, Indiana, California and Washington, and we have these States from which to secure gains. As I said, I am satisfied that we will have a majority in the Senate of from six to nine."

In reply to inquiry as to the state of public sentiment in the West, concerning the results of the war and the acquisition of territory, Chairman Babcock said:

"I have found a sentiment of general satisfaction there over the results of the war, and I find those who voted for McKinley are especially proud of it, whether Republicans or Democrats. All the acts of the Administration meet with their ready approval. I think, however, in my own State, the feeling is against the acquisition of territory in the Eastern Hemisphere. As near as I was able to size up the situation, the people there feel that there will be no adequate compensation for us in the Philippine Islands; that the serious questions that we would have to face when we become a party to the Eastern question, are of such a character that it requires a very close and careful investigation before any territory there is annexed or acquired beyond a naval station and the necessary harbors for our shipping."

NOMINATIONS FOR CONGRESS.

Harrisburg, Penn., Aug. 24.—The Democratic conference of the XIVth District nominated W. W. Gray, of Perry County, for Congress.

Minneapolis, Aug. 24.—R. C. De Graffenried (Dem.) was nominated for Congress yesterday.

Norfolk, Neb., Aug. 24.—The Republicans of the XIVth Nebraska District have nominated W. P. Norris, of Wayne, for Congress.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Aug. 24.—The deadlock in the Republican convention in the IXth Congress District was broken to-day by the nomination of Smith McPherson, of Montgomery County.

Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 24.—Russell A. Waters, of Los Angeles, was yesterday nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Vth District.

Omaha, Aug. 24.—A dispatch to "The Bee" from Dodge, Neb., says: "Last night the Populists, Democrats and Free Silver Republicans of the Vth Nebraska District met and renominated for Congress R. D. Sutherland."

HEAVY SHIPMENTS OF POLAND are received daily from Maine's famous spring—Advt.

PREPARING PEACE TERMS.

TASK OF THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY DAY AND SENATOR DAVIS.

THE LATTER'S ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A SERIES OF IMPORTANT CONFERENCES.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Senator Cushman K. Davis, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and selected as a member of the commission to negotiate terms of peace with Spain, arrived in Washington to-day. He went to the White House soon after his arrival, and remained with the President for an hour. The conference was of a preliminary character, and was devoted largely to the great question which the Administration will have to settle—the control of the Philippines. Afterward Senator Davis went to the State Department and saw Secretary Day, who is also to be a member of the Peace Commission.

Senator Davis will remain in Washington two or three days, and the terms of peace for the American side will be formulated as far as possible in the conferences which will occur between the President, the Secretary of State and the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. The preliminaries will be of great importance, as all the diplomatic questions, the examinations of old treaties, the many points to be involved in the new treaty, of necessity will have to be thoroughly considered by the Commissioners.

Senator Davis refused absolutely to discuss with newspaper men any of the questions growing out of the war or the subjects which might come before the Commission. He would neither express his own views nor discuss the sentiment of the people of his State or other sections respecting the Philippines, the Government of Porto Rico or the management of affairs in Cuba. He referred briefly to the success of the war and the achievements of the American soldiers and sailors in the different battles which occurred, and he was especially gratified at the gallant conduct of the 13th Minnesota in the battle of Manila. He made arrangements with the War Department for bringing home the body of Captain Bjornstad, of that regiment, who has died from wounds since the battle was fought. Many members of the Senate are personal friends of the Senator, some of them living in his neighborhood of St. Paul.

MEETING OF CORTES CALLED.

Madrid, Aug. 24.—The Queen Regent has signed the royal decree convoking the Cortes for September 5.

SPANISH TROOPS ARRIVE HOME.

GREAT CROWDS GATHER TO GREET THE FIRST DETACHMENT OF REPATRIATED SOLDIERS.

Corunna, Spain, Aug. 24.—The Spanish steamer Alicante, with the first of Spain's repatriated soldiers from Santiago de Cuba, reached here to-day.

Enormous crowds gathered upon the quays, but were not allowed to get near the vessel for fear of the yellow fever contagion. All the military and civil authorities were present.

Some of the sick will be taken to the Oza Lazareto, where they will be quarantined. Others will be kept five days in hospital ships before they are dispatched to their homes.

The Queen Regent sent a message to the troops on board the Alicante, congratulating them upon their conduct in the field, and saying that she proposed to be the first to welcome them home. The reading of the dispatch was heard with great enthusiasm.

The disembarkation is now in progress. There was no yellow fever on board, though sixty died of other diseases during the voyage.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

London, Aug. 25.—A dispatch to "The Standard" from Madrid, by way of France, says:

"A very unfavorable impression has been caused in Madrid by telegrams attributing to President McKinley the intention of instructing the Peace Commissioners to insist upon the cession of Luzon, that American commerce should have the same footing as Spanish in the Philippines, and that Spain should pledge herself that none of the Spanish colonies should be ceded to European Powers."

"If such are the intentions of the United States Government the negotiations are sure to be laborious, even if an understanding is ever arrived at. The Spaniards consider the cession of Luzon, their best and most important island, to be a death-blow to their prestige and sovereignty in those regions, and that this would be irretrievably weakened and crippled by the presence of Americans in the heart of their colonies."

"Commercial equality with the United States in the Archipelagoes would annul the only advantage and compensation which they might have expected to have derived for the cost and sacrifices which have been necessary to maintain their rule in the Archipelagoes. The separation of Church and State would be more unpalatable to most Spaniards, and would create grave difficulties in their relations with the Vatican, and the Church, let alone the powerful religious orders in Spain, which are always disposed to side with Don Carlos against the present dynasty."

"Last, but not least, any pledge to refrain from ceding any part to the Powers would displease many statesmen and people of all classes, who are daily more and more inclined to advocate the sale of the Spanish Archipelagoes to the highest bidder, and especially to Continental Powers most likely to be in position to arrest the growth of American political and commercial influences in the Far East."

TO REPEL INSURGENT ATTACKS.

Madrid, Aug. 24.—The Minister for War, Lieutenant-General Correa, when asked what instructions had been given Marshal Blanco in regard to opposing the insurgents in Cuba, replied that he had ordered the Captains-General of Cuba and the Philippines to act in accord with the Americans, but if the Americans should prove unable to make the insurgents respect the armistice, then the instructions were to repel by arms any attack upon the Spaniards.

CARLIST DISTURBANCES.

London, Aug. 25.—The Madrid correspondent of "The Daily Mail" says: "It is significant that the principal Carlists here are registering their property in the names of other persons to prevent its confiscation in the event of trouble."

"The military judge at Barcelona has ordered a court-martial on a sergeant, two corporals and several soldiers, who were trying to recruit among the garrison for the Carlists."

"Carlist disturbances are reported in several small towns in Aragon, caused by the closing of the Carlist clubs."

Our Hildebrandt's Instantaneous Photographs are better than crayons; by the price. Rockwood's, B'way 40th. (Advt.)

A NEW REBELLION.

PHILIPPINE INSURGENTS WANT ISLANDS TO REMAIN AMERICAN OR BRITISH COLONY.

Manila, Aug. 24.—At a conference to-day between the insurgents and the Americans the former declared emphatically that they were willing to co-operate with the Americans and to surrender their arms promptly if assured that the islands would remain either an American or a British colony, or under the protectorate of the United States or Great Britain.

Otherwise, the insurgent leaders asserted, they would not dare disarm, but must positively refuse to do so. They threaten a fresh rebellion within a month if the Americans withdraw.

The natives assert that the religious orders are instigating opposition to American supremacy.

Many Spaniards assert that they are eager to invest their fortunes in new enterprises, but that they fear ruin if the Americans withdraw. A few monopolists, fearing competition, are secretly intriguing against the new régime.

FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Madrid, Aug. 24.—The Government has received a dispatch from General Rios, Governor of the Visayas Islands, and the successor of General Jaenides in the Governor-Generalship of the Philippines, saying that there has been bloody fighting between the Spaniards and the insurgents, with an estimated loss to the latter of five hundred men. The Spanish losses were "unimportant."

The dispatch says that a number of the insurgent chiefs were captured and shot. A sergeant of gendarmes who attempted to incite a rising against the authorities barely escaped lynching at the hands of the populace. He was turned over to the courts and shot.

General Rios adds that he has organized six battalions of natives and Spaniards, for the purpose of resisting a threatened invasion of insurgents from the island of Luzon, and also a small squadron to watch the coasts and rivers of Mindanao Island and the Visayas.

TRANSPORTS ARRIVE AT MANILA.

Manila, Aug. 24.—The United States transports Rio Janeiro and Pennsylvania arrived to-day, the former bearing two battalions of South Dakota Volunteer recruits for the Utah Light Artillery and a detachment of the Signal Corps, and the latter the 1st Montana Volunteers and three hundred recruits for the 1st California Volunteers.

MERRITT ASSUMES GOVERNOR'S DUTY.

San Francisco, Aug. 24.—A special dispatch from Manila, dated August 23, says: "General Merritt has assumed the Governor's duty, and transferred the command of the Eighth Corps to Major-General Otis. Brigadier-General H. G. Otis, of California, has been ordered to report to General Anderson and General MacArthur. General MacArthur has been assigned to command the Second Division. Colonel Owenshine, of the 3d Regulars, will command the brigade in place of General MacArthur."

BRITISH VESSELS FOR MANILA.

Hong Kong, Aug. 24.—The British cruiser Hermonie and the British gunboat Peacock left to-day for Manila, Philippine Islands.

SITUATION IN PORTO RICO.

GENERAL WILSON ASSUMES CONTROL OF PONCE AND ORDERS ALL THE SALOONS CLOSED.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 24.—General James H. Wilson has assumed control of the District of Ponce, and has ordered that all saloons shall be closed for three days, with a view to quieting the existing disorders. They will be opened subsequently under special regulations. General Grant has established his headquarters here.

The schooner Dolores, flying the Spanish flag, entered the harbor this morning. Her captain was uncertain whether a state of peace or of war existed, but decided to take his chances. The Dolores was not molested.

The Alamo, with supplies and clothing for General Henry's men, sailed for Arecibo, on the north coast of Porto Rico, this morning.

General Brooke is still awaiting his credentials. On their arrival he will immediately leave for San Juan, a troop of the 6th Regular Cavalry acting as escort.

Preparations are being made for the embarkation of the volunteers and cavalry ordered home.

The cavalry includes Troops A and C, of New-York, and the following Pennsylvania troops: The Philadelphia City Troop, the Sheridan Troop and the Governor's Troop. These are concentrated here and at Guánica, and will probably sail on the transport Mississippi in a few days. The men are delighted at the prospect.

A cable message announcing that Mrs. Miles, accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. Rice, had sailed for Ponce on the United States transport Osborn from Charleston last Saturday, and that the departure of General Miles and his staff several days.

The Pennsylvania and Missouri Volunteers and batteries are to follow the cavalry home.

General Wilson will shortly permit the reopening of the saloons and cafés, but will prohibit the sale of liquor by the drink until a license system shall have been established.

General Henry and his staff are here. They will return home immediately. General Garretson will succeed General Henry in his command.

PAYMASTERS TAKE YELLOW FEVER.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The paymasters who were at Santiago and were ordered to Porto Rico will now go to Montauk instead. Two of them have taken yellow fever, and it is believed to be necessary to take the others to Montauk for disinfection. The money to pay the troops in Porto Rico is aboard ship at Santiago, and will be sent North. When it has been received another corps of paymasters will be sent to pay the troops.

LORD BERESFORD STARTS FOR CHINA.

London, Aug. 24.—Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, Conservative member of Parliament for the City of York, who was recently commissioned by the Associated Chambers of Commerce on a special mission to China, started on his Eastern journey this afternoon.

Lord Beresford goes to investigate the prospects of commerce, and to report particularly as to the extent to which the Chinese Government will guarantee the safety of British capital already invested, and of contemplated investments. He will probably be absent several months.

POLAND SPRING WATER. Recommended and prescribed for its rare purity. (Advt.)

ALGER AT MONTAUK.

THE SECRETARY MAKES A CAREFUL INSPECTION OF THE CAMP.

EXPRESSES HIMSELF AS PLEASED WITH EXISTING CONDITIONS—THE YALE BRINGS MORE TROOPS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, N. Y., Aug. 24.—Secretary of War Russell A. Alger arrived at the Montauk station at 11:30 this morning on a special train, made up of an engine, a day coach and President Baldwin's private car, which had been sent down to Long Island City yesterday for Mr. Alger's special use.

Mr. Alger was accompanied by Colonel Hecker and Major Hopkins. Few people were at the station when the train arrived, and the platform was practically clear when Mr. Alger stepped down from President Baldwin's car. He advanced with inquiring glances at the few who stood back upon the platform, until his eye fell upon Major Hutchins, of the Quartermaster's Department. Major Hutchins was an old Michigan friend, and Mr. Alger stepped forward and cordially grasped his hand. As he turned from Major Hutchins, he met General Wheeler advancing up the platform. They, too, shook hands cordially, and General Wheeler said: "I am very glad to have the pleasure of seeing you here, Mr. Secretary."

"I am very glad to be here, General Wheeler," Mr. Alger responded. Then General Wheeler introduced the members of his staff, and Dr. Magruder, the quarantine officer on the water, was presented.